

PATENT APPLICATION



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Michel COLLETTE

Group Art Unit: 3738

Application No.: 10/535,724

Examiner: S. GHERBI

Filed: December 20, 2005

Docket No.: 123977

For: ANCHORING SCREW FOR A RELAY STRIP OR SUTURE

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In reply to the August 22, 2008 Restriction Requirement, the shortened statutory period for reply being extended by the attached Petition for Extension of Time, Applicant provisionally elects Group II, claims 12-17 and 22, with traverse.¹

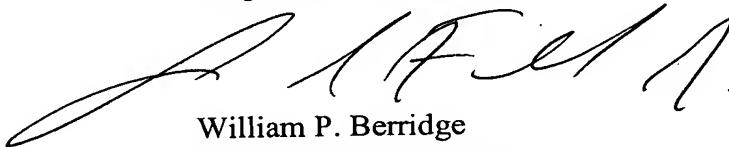
It is also respectfully submitted that the subject matter of all claims is sufficiently related that a thorough search for the subject matter of any one Group of claims would encompass a search for the subject matter of the remaining claims. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that the search and examination of the entire application could be made without serious burden. See MPEP §803 in which it is stated that "if the search and examination of an entire application can be made without serious burden, the examiner must examine it on the merits, even though it includes claims to independent or distinct inventions" (emphasis

¹ Applicant notes that the August 22 Restriction Requirement, on page 2, lines 8 and 9, indicates that Group I corresponds to claims 1-11 and 19-21 and that Group II corresponds to claims 12-77 and 22. Applicant interprets the August 22 Restriction Requirement as intending to assert that Group I corresponds to claims 1-11 and 18-21 and that Group II corresponds to claims 12-17 and 22.

added). It is respectfully submitted that this policy should apply in the present application in order to avoid unnecessary delay and expense to Applicant and duplicative examination by the Patent Office.

Thus, withdrawal of the Restriction Requirement is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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WPB:LXF/mab

Attachment:
Petition for Extension of Time

Date: October 22, 2008

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